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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of : Confirmation No. 4926  
Takashi NISHIHARA et al. : Docket No. 2004\_0297A  
Serial No. 10/787,301 : Group Art Unit 2655  
Filed February 27, 2004 :  
INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM :  
AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING :  
THE SAME :  
THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication (*for U.S. National applications filed after June 30, 2003 and International applications that have entered U.S. National Stage after June 30, 2003*),
- each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/\_\_\_\_\_ ; and/or
- each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_.

1a.  This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

1b.  This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1)  the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2)  the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c.  This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

- a.  that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b.  that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3.  Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
  
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
  - a.  a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b.  a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c.  the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d.  the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e.  the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
  
5.  A European Search Report citing one or more of the references is enclosed. The European Search Report included herewith includes the statement that "no claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European Search Report has been drawn up for the first ten claims." However, the European Patent Office has confirmed to the Applicants that the above sentence in the European Search Report is based on an internal mistake within the EPO, all claim fees have been paid, and the search report has been drawn up for all claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Takashi NISHIHARA et al.

By

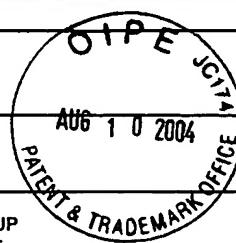


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August 10, 2004

FORM PTO 1449 (*modified*)ATTY DOCKET NO.  
2004\_0297ASERIAL NO.  
10/787,301U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(*Use several sheets if necessary*)

Date Submitted to PTO: August 10, 2004

APPLICANT  
Takashi NISHIHARA et al.FILING DATE  
February 27, 2004GROUP  
2655

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                   | AA |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE    | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES<br>NO |
|--|----|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|-----------------------|
|  | AB | 1 172 811       | 1-16-02 | Europe  |       |          | X                     |
|  | AC | 1 187 119       | 3-13-02 | Europe  |       |          | X                     |
|  | AD | 0 217 293       | 4-8-87  | Europe  |       |          | X                     |
|  | AE | 8-321041        | 12-3-96 | Japan   |       |          | abstract              |
|  | AF | 0 184 452       | 6-11-86 | Europe  |       |          | X                     |
|  | AG | 2004/025640     | 3-25-04 | WO      |       |          | abstract              |
|  | AH | 1 324 326       | 7-2-03  | Europe  |       |          | X                     |
|  | AI | 1 351 229       | 10-8-03 | Europe  |       |          | X                     |

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (*Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.*)

|  |    |  |
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|  | AJ | M. Horie et al., "Material Characterization and Application of Eutectic SbTe Based Phase-Change Optical Recording Media" Proceedings of the SPIE, SPIE, Bellingham, VA, US, vol. 4342, April 2001 (04-2001), pages 76-87   |
|  | AK | T. AKIYAMA et al., "Rewritable Dual-Layer Phase-Change Optical Disk Utilizing a Blue-Violet Laser", Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Publication Office Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Tokyo, JP, vol. 40, no. 3B, 2001, pages 1598-1603   |
|  | AL | R. KOJIMA et al., "Acceleration of Crystallization Speed by Sn Addition to Ge-Sb-Te Phase-Change Recording Material" JPN, J. Appl. Phys. 1, Regul. Pap. Short Notes Rev. Pap. (Japan), Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Part 1 (Regular Papers, Short Notes & Review Papers), Oct. 2001, Japan Soc. Appl. Phys., Japan, vol. 40, no. 10, October 2001 (10-2001), pages 5930-5937 |
|  | AM | K. NARUMI et al., "Rewritable Dual-Layer Phase-Change Optical Disk with a Balanced Transmittance Structure" Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Publication Office Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Tokyo, JP, vol. 41, no. 5A, Part 1, May 2002 (05-2002), pages 2925-2930   |
|  | AN | K. YUSU et al., "Advanced Phase Change Medium of over 30GB Capacity for Blue Laser and High-NA Objective Lens", Joint International Symposium on Optical Memory and Optical Data Storage 2002, Technical Digest, Waikoloa, HI, USA, July 7-11 2002, July 7, 2002 (07-07-2002), pages 413-415   |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED